

Insight 'Strange,' 'terrible' the bywords

Fleeing refugees
draw comparison
with 'the last time'

By Malcolm W. Browne
N. Y. Times Service

HAI VAN PASS, South Vietnam — Scores of thousands of persons, with whatever belongings they could drag, were abandoning Hue, the old capital of Vietnam, Friday, and the road south from the city was a scene of continuous human suffering.

Military forces also were moving out, some by landing craft, some in military vehicles, some bundled into trucks with military family members, furniture and food.

No one seemed in the slightest doubt that Hue and the rest of the northern part of the country were being left to the Communists. A harried colonel of the Vietnamese First Infantry Division stopped his jeep long enough to say, "Yes, yes, the evacuation will be finished in several days, several days."

Refugees were pouring toward the coastal city of Da Nang, not only from Quang Tri and Hue to the northwest, but also from provinces farther south.

Here in the Hai Van Pass — a scenic cut in a small range of jagged hills projecting into the South China Sea between Hue and Da Nang — the exodus was a nightmare.

There was no real panic, but the sheer volume of trucks, buses, army vehicles, cattle herds, bicycles, motorcycles and pedestrians along narrow, badly asphalted Route 1, created the conditions for countless accidents.

Empty vehicles are flowing north in a volume nearly equal to those going south, to pick up more passengers.

The round trip by road from Da Nang to Hue, a total distance of about 152 kilometers (120 miles) normally covered in a little over four hours, now is taking vehicles 36 hours or more.

Few of the refugees had heard of the speech by President Nguyen Van Thieu Thursday, in which he said the armed forces would fight to the end, except in two highland provinces being abandoned.

"I knew nothing of this," a housewife said as she prepared a roadside lunch for her young children, "until I had to go to a government office in Hue and was told that my problem would have to be handled by another office, since that one was leaving."

"So I went to another office, and that one was leaving too, and right away all of us realized that the whole government and the army were leaving. So we started leaving too."

A man in another place said: "It's so strange and terrible this time. In the other bad times, in 1968 and 1972, lots of us became refugees too. But this time there is no fighting, no reason. Hue is being shelled a bit now, but that's not why we are leaving. We are leaving because the government is giving our home to the Communists."

American sources in the area, who asserted that Hue was not being abandoned, said, however, that American aircraft had been used to ferry all Western foreigners, regardless of nationality, out of Hue, and that the evacuation, except for a half dozen American officials, was complete.

Vietnamese military police were helping to unsmear the worst of the traffic jams along the road, but apart from them and some ambulance service for the many accident casualties, there was no evidence of the slightest government assistance to the refugees.

Ken claims Pugh backers asked him not to run

HUD chief's mate aids CIA probe

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Ford is bringing the husband of his housing secretary into the White House to help oversee handling of growing investigations into U.S. intelligence agencies, White House officials said Friday.

Roderick Hills, millionaire husband of Secretary Carla Anderson Hills, already is on the payroll as a \$138-a-day consultant pending security checks on his appointment as a

presidential counsel and deputy to Ford's chief adviser, Philip W. Buchen, aides said.

Buchen, Hills and an assistant still to be named, will handle all legal aspects involved in such investigations as congressional inquiries into charges the Central Intelligence Agency engaged in domestic espionage, planned foreign political assassinations and spent 350 million dollars to partially raise a sunken

Soviet submarine.

Administration sources said Ford considered and discarded an idea to create a "czar" or "superspook" to oversee all federal intelligence activities. Such action would have cost CIA director, William Colby his leadership in the federal cloak and dagger world.

Instead, Ford chose to use the regular White House organization.

Under this policy, all congressional requests for documents and other information will be handled normally. For example, the CIA will supply the lawmakers directly with routine requested information and the Buchen-Hills team will sift out data that could be legally sensitive.

Some information may pass through the president's National Security Council, directed by Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger.

Associate Deputy Attorney General James Wilderott is the likely person to be named as chief assistant to Hills in the expansion of the White House Counsel's Office, administration sources said.

Mrs. Hills, 41, was confirmed by the Senate last week to be secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the third woman to serve in the Cabinet.

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Spring rites

These children took time out from the MFA spring festivities Thursday to celebrate the first streams this year from MFA's fountain. Balloons, clowns

and music were also part of the ceremony. (Missourian photo by Denise DeWoskin)

Curators agree party ties irrelevant

By Steve Fehr
Missourian staff writer

"If you were to put me up against a wall with a gun pointed at my head, I couldn't tell you the party affiliation of any member of this board."

Irvin Fane, like the six other members of the University's Board of Curators attending Friday's meeting, agreed that despite the current political struggle in Jefferson City, decision-making on the board is not affected by party affiliation.

Fane said "neither (Gov. Christopher) Bond nor (former Gov. Warren) Hearnes ever asked me to do anything for them" that would have involved a political decision.

"In my 10 years as a curator, I've never seen a political vote on anything," added curator Pleasant Smith of Mexico, Mo.

Because their political party activities have been questioned, nominees C.R. Johnston of Springfield and James Feltmann of Washington, Mo., have had difficulty being confirmed by the Missouri Senate since their nomination by Bond on Jan. 9.

Feltmann was not approved by his state senator, Marvin Dinger, D-Iron, because Dinger could not determine Feltmann's party. Feltmann said he will not appear before the Senate gubernatorial appointments committee. The committee will not meet again until after the Senate's Easter recess.

Johnston, who originally was nominated as a Democrat, was resubmitted by Bond as an independent on March 13.

Curator Howard Woods of St. Louis agreed that politics does not enter into board decision-making, but said "it

is necessary to have some political balance on the board to satisfy state law." The law provides that no more than five curators may belong to any one political party.

Woods recalled a similar situation when he was asked by President Lyndon Johnson to be the first black member of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in 1965.

"He was trying to appoint me as an independent. I told him I voted on a Democratic ballot in the primaries but usually I pick and choose when I vote."

President Johnson then told Woods he would have trouble being confirmed in the Senate because the Senate Republican leader, the late Everett Dirksen of Illinois, would fight the nomination since it appeared that Johnson was trying to nominate

a Democrat but was disguising Woods as an independent.

"I told Johnson I need a fight like I need a hole in my head," Woods said. Johnson did not nominate Woods to the FCC. Instead, he was appointed associate director of the United States Information Agency (USIA).

Woods' story parallels the situation in Jefferson City. State Sen. A. M. Spradling Jr., D-Cape Girardeau, said last week that Bond "has given us all Republicans and just labeled them with different labels."

The third nominee, Dr. Wallace Stacey of Independence, has not received criticism. He was the only nominee that attended Friday's board meeting and was asked by University officials to participate in discussions.

"I don't regard my appointment as political," Stacey said. Hugh Sprague, Gov. Bond's press

Ramada Inn, 1100 Vandiver Drive, and the Ice Plant, 320E. Broadway. The amounts of their bills were not available. One advisory board member estimated that delinquent bills for all businesses involved total \$100,000 to \$150,000.

Members of the board demanded that Lundsted collect the bills and said that if the bills were not paid, electricity should be shut off. Lundsted said collection was not his job. He said the responsibility for collection was with the city's finance department.

Scanlan responded Friday that the responsibility for collecting the bills was the water and light department's.

According to city ordinances, the responsibility for collection of delinquent bills was explicitly the finance department's, until the ordinance was repealed last fall by the City Council. The new ordinance redefined the powers of the finance department. It also removed the collection task from the department. The problem is that collection was not reassigned to any other department.

Under the current ordinance dealing with the water and light department, the director has the power to cut off

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Ratchford overruled; board backs students

By Steve Fehr
Missourian staff writer

The University Board of Curators Friday overruled President C. Brice Ratchford's disapproval of a legal education program backed by the Missouri Students Association (MSA). This marks the first time in the board's history that the University president was overruled by the curators on direct appeal from a student group.

In another action, the board unanimously approved preliminary plans for the proposed Enid Jackson Kemper Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Missouri at Kansas City. The center, to be built at a cost of \$16.4 million, is the largest single project in the history of the University.

After the meeting, Ratchford said the fact that he was overruled on the legal educator program "doesn't make me uptight a bit." He said he was satisfied with the curators' decision.

"I liked the idea of a legal education program from the word 'go'" but only questioned the legality of the proposal, Ratchford said.

The board passed a resolution authorizing establishment of a part-time legal educator on the Columbia campus.

Operating on a budget of \$7,000, the legal educator will conduct seminars, edit publications and consult with students concerning legal matters. Funds are provided by student activity fees.

Curator Irvin Fane of Kansas City, a member of the board's Academic Affairs Committee, changed the wording in some sections of the legal educator proposal and resubmitted it to the curators Friday.

Dennis Viehland, former president of MSA and an architect of the proposal, said the decision was "extremely significant. Usually, these types of student matters go to Schooling or Ratchford. But this is the first time a student government group on

Candidate's beef: costly council food

Barry Richardson wants to give the city a break — every day.

The Second Ward council candidate, who has been critical of council members who eat pre-council dinners for which the city pays, said Friday he would not "eat off of the people of the city."

Rather, he said he would "stop off for a Big Mac and French fries" and bring it with him to the dinner meetings.

Richardson said, as a councilman, he would report his anticipated expenses to the press and the public in advance and would "keep them to a minimum," perhaps with change back from their dollars.

He is opposed by David York, 265 Phyllis Ave., and David Linstrom, 1803 Kathy Ave.